

MIRANDEA GRISEA (ACANTHACEAE), NEW FOR  
COAHUILA AND DURANGO, MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

Two new localities are added to the known distribution of *Mirandea grisea*: one in the southwestern Coahuila and other in the north-eastern Durango. The distribution of species is thereby significantly expanded almost 200 km northwestward in the Chihuahuan Desert Region.

KEY WORDS: *Mirandea*, Acanthaceae, Chihuahuan Desert

RESUMEN

Dos nuevas localidades se adicionan para la distribución conocida de *Mirandea grisea*: una en el suroeste de Coahuila y otra en el noroeste de Durango. La distribución de la especie se expande significativamente hasta casi 200 km al noroeste en la Región del Desierto Chihuahuense.

PALABRAS CLAVE: *Mirandea*, Acanthaceae, Desierto Chihuahuense

The genus *Mirandea* was described by Rzedowski (1959) based on *Mirandea grisea* from San Luis Potosí. At present six species are known in the genus, all of them endemic to Mexico: *Mirandea huastecensis* T.F. Daniel restricted to the Canyon La Huasteca in the state of Nuevo León; *M. hyssopus* (Nees) T.F. Daniel and *M. nutans* (Nees) T.F. Daniel to Querétaro and Hidalgo; *M. sylvatica* Acosta to Chiapas, Oaxaca, Tabasco and Veracruz; and *M. andradenia* T.F. Daniel to Tamaulipas (Daniel 2003; Daniel & Acosta 2003). *Mirandea* species resemble those of *Carlowrightia*, however, they differ in stamen characteristics. In *Mirandea* the filaments are twisted and appressed to the upper lip of the corolla, the anthers open to lower lip, and the style is recurved near the apex, while in *Carlowrightia*, the stamens are not appressed to the upper lip of the corolla, the filaments are not twisted, the anthers open to the upper lip, and the style is straight near the apex (Daniel 1982).

*Mirandea grisea* has been recorded from San Luis Potosí near El Tepeyac (MEXU, TEX), Matehuala (MICH), Guadalcazar (ENCB, TEX) and El Huizache (ENCB, TEX) (Daniel 1982) and in Tula in southwestern Tamaulipas (CAS, MEXU, MO) (Daniel 1999). Plants occur in scrub vegetation. The new localities are the following:

Voucher specimens: **MÉXICO. Coahuila:** Municipio de Torreón, Sierra de Jimulco, cañón La Gualdria, 1450–1500 m, 10–11 Oct 2008 (fl, fr), A.E. Estrada 20677 (ANSM, CFNL). **Durango:** Municipio de Lerdo, Sierra El Sarnoso, 25°33'–25°43' N, 103°35'–103°43' W, 1350 m, 24 Aug 1991 (fl), E. Barajas s.n. (ANSM).

*Distribution and Conservation.*—The new records for this species are in the Sierra of Jimulco (ca. 40 km N of Torreón in Coahuila), and in the Sierra El Sarnoso (ca. 10 km W of Sierra de Jimulco, in Durango) (Fig. 1). Vegetation of both areas is desert scrub with *Larrea tridentata*, *Agave lecheguilla*, *Parthenium incanum*, *P. argentatum*,

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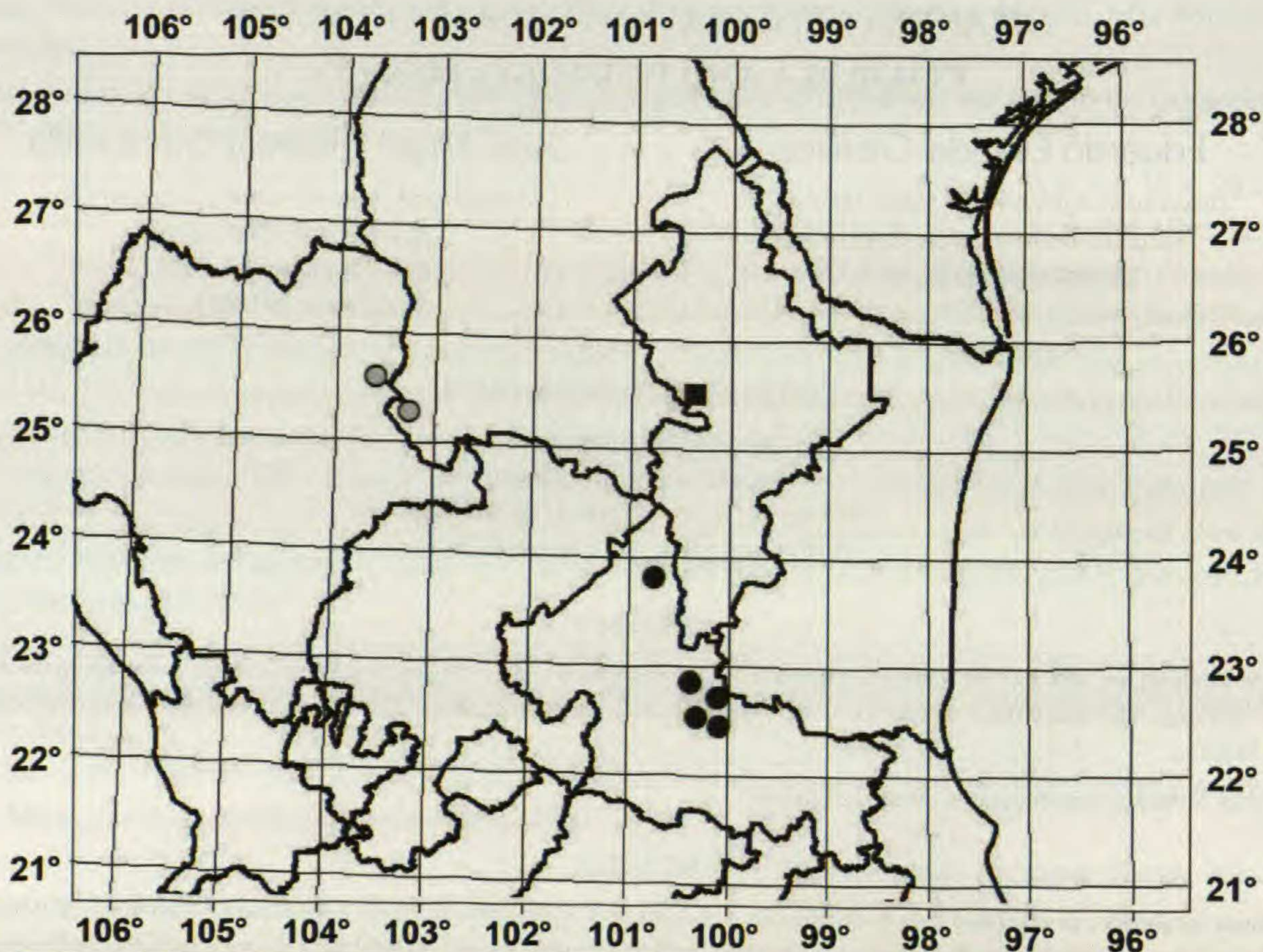


FIG. 1. Distribution of *M. huastecensis* in Nuevo León (black square), and *M. grisea* in San Luis Potosí (black dots), and the new localities of *M. grisea* in SW Coahuila (Sierra de Jimulco) and NE Durango (Sierra El Sarnoso) (gray dots).

*Opuntia lindheimeri*, *Fouquieria splendens*, *Jatropha dioica*, and *Lippia graveolens* associations. Both localities are almost 300–320 km NW from the nearest locality where *Mirandea grisea* was recorded previously (El Huizache area). In Jimulco as in El Sarnoso, *Mirandea grisea* is rare; it does not form extensive stands as in San Luis Potosí (Daniel 1982). Only a few individuals were located scattered through the vegetation on inclined planes and in the valleys at 1,500 to 1,700 meters. Canopy cover was less than 30%. The new records for this species expand its known distribution almost 200 km northwestward in the Chihuahuan Desert Region. *Mirandea grisea* could be included into the NOM-059-ECOL-2001 (Semarnat 2001) as endangered species in Coahuila and Durango States, since there are only few populations and few individuals in each of these populations.

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